

# PATENT SPECIFICATION

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DRAWINGS ATTACHED



1 200 177

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A5R 83A
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## (54) SANITARY GARMENTS

(71) We, SOUTHALLS (BIRMINGHAM) LIMITED, of Charford Mills, Alum Rock Road, Saltley, in the City of Birmingham 8, a British Company, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to garments for retaining sanitary or incontinence pads, and has for its object to provide such a garment in a form in which it can be changed readily and which is adaptable to persons of widely different sizes.

The present invention makes use of a known kind of fastening (hereinafter termed a fastening of the said kind), comprising a pair of complementary strips one of which incorporates a plurality of tiny hooks and the other of which incorporates a plurality of tiny loops, the arrangement being such that when the two strips are pressed into facial contact the hooks engage the loops and grip one another firmly to resist longitudinal separation of the strips, but permit the one strip to be peeled from the other. An example of such a fastening is sold under the Registered Trade Mark VELCRO.

A garment according to the invention comprises an elastic waistband having the two complementary strips of a fastening of the said kind adjacent its ends respectively so that the two ends of the waistband can be connected in variable overlapping relationship, and a liquid impervious crotch piece to opposite sides of the front and rear of which are connected respectively two pairs of elastic straps, each strap being provided adjacent its free end with a strip of a fastening of the said kind for variable connection to a complementary strip or strips on the waistband.

An example of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying perspective drawing.

Referring to the drawing there is provided an elastic waistband 1 to the inside of which are secured a pair of strips 2, 3 of a fastening of the said kind, this pair of strips being of the looped type and extending for a substantial

distance from the two free ends of the band (which are intended to overlap at the front of the wearer) to positions such that they will embrace the hips of a wearer. Moreover, to the outside of the waistband 1 adjacent one end is secured a complementary strip 4 of the hooked type so that by selective engagement of this strip with different positions of the complementary strip a waistband of variable size is provided.

There is also provided a plastics or other liquid impervious crutch piece 5. To opposite sides of the front of the crutch piece 5 are connected respectively the one pair of ends of a pair of elastic straps 6, whilst to opposite sides of the rear of the crutch piece are connected respectively the one pair of ends of a further pair of elastic straps 7. Adjacent the free ends of the four straps 6, 7 and on their outer sides are connected respectively four hook-type strips 8 of a fastening of the said kind which can be variably connected to the complementary strips 2, 3 on the waistband as shown in the drawing. If desired the strips 2, 3 could be replaced by a continuous strip on the inside of the waistband 1.

It will be understood that since the effective size of the waistband is variable, and the straps can be variably connected to the waistband the garment can readily be arranged to fit persons of widely different sizes. Moreover, since the garment can be taken apart readily the changing of sanitary or incontinence pads on bed-ridden patients or by physically handicapped people is greatly facilitated.

### WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. A garment for retaining sanitary or incontinence pads comprising an elastic waistband having the two complementary strips of a fastening of the said kind adjacent its ends respectively so that the two ends of the waistband can be connected in variable overlapping relationship, and a liquid impervious crutch piece to opposite sides of the front and rear of which are connected respectively two pairs of elastic straps, each

[Price 5s. 0d. (25p)]

strap being provided adjacent its free end with a strip of a fastening of the said kind for variable connection to a complementary strip or strips on the waistband.

- 5 2. A garment as claimed in claim 1 in which the waistband has one or more strips of the looped type on its inside and a strip of the hooked type on its outside adjacent one

end, the four straps having strips of the hooked type.

- 10 3. A garment for retaining a sanitary or incontinence pad substantially as described with reference to the accompanying drawing.

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